

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT

Follow 2 | principle 12.1



The Spirit who Represents God

The Holy Spirit is often seen as a feeling or a wonderful experience.

How is the Holy Spirit identified here?

John 14:16-17,26

This text talks about someone who is a Spirit, a person. In the OT and NT we regularly read that the Spirit speaks. Things do not talk but people do.

What is said in this text about the Holy Spirit speaking?

John 16:13-14

We also saw this in the life of Jesus. He spoke what God the Father showed him. The Holy Spirit does exactly the same.

The Holy Spirit is therefore a person, not with a body on earth like Jesus was, but He does speak. He can be happy and sad. He has wisdom, love, peace and hope.

The Holy Spirit in the OT and in the NT

The Holy Spirit was present from the beginning of creation.

1 Sam 16:13

Many times in the OT we read that the Spirit of God came upon people.

Judges 14:5,6

He equipped certain people with the power of God.

Ex 35:30-35

He gave insights to design and create.

Ezek 37:1-4

He also gave prophetic thoughts to people.

2 Chron 7:1-3

Sometimes the presence of God through the Holy Spirit was so powerful that people couldn't stay standing.

The Holy Spirit in the NT

We notice a big difference in the presence of the Holy Spirit in the OT compared to that in the NT. The great difference occurred once Jesus had broken the power of Satan and He returned to His Father. Jesus promised His disciples that He would not leave them behind as orphans.

Where will the Spirit live?

John 14:17-18

Jesus left the earth and returned to the Father but sent the Holy Spirit to us. The same Spirit comes and lives in us if we accept Jesus, This is the same person who conceived Jesus in Mary's womb and filled Jesus when He was baptized.

Luke 3:21-22 Luke 4:1

The Holy Spirit wants to fill everyone who is thirsty for Him and who asks Him to fill them.

What are we, the believers, called here?

1 Cor 3:16-17

In the OT we see that the Jews went to the temple to worship God. In the book of Acts we see that the disciples are filled with the Spirit of God. He now lives inside His disciples! This is what God the Father always intended. Through Jesus, the temple, our body, is clean. The Holy Spirit can now live in us. Hallelujah.

The Most Important Task

Who gives life? What does the Spirit bring?

John 6:63

Rom 8:4b-6

When the Holy Spirit enters us, we then receive the life of God in us. We are born again (we will look at this further in part 3). The Holy Spirit awakens in us that which God always desired. He wanted us to be His children and His heirs on earth. He does this so that we can bring the Kingdom of God on earth, just like Jesus.

What happens when we receive the Spirit of God?

Rom 8:15-17

The Holy Spirit in us bears witness that we are children of God.

The New Covenant

When God made a covenant with Abraham, God explained how the blessing would go from Abraham to the people. The people had to keep lots of different rules. They tried their best to do this. Later on, a tent was made by Moses for God. That is where people could meet God, worship Him and bring all different kinds of sacrifices. And yet this plan kept on going wrong, time and time again. The people were just not able to keep God's rules and they remained slaves to the law. Jesus told His disciples about a new covenant which would come. The Holy Spirit is proof of the new covenant and the believers would receive that proof as a seal. A seal is given on an important document using a special ring.

Acts 2:38 Eph 1:13

It is the Holy Spirit who now helps believers to live with God. He helps us to live in dependence upon God and to trust Him. God didn't only live in Jesus when He was on earth, He also lives now in believers.

What kills and what gives life?

2 Cor 3:6



EXERCISE:

If you want to live with God then you need the Holy Spirit. You cannot live without Him. The Holy Spirit is already working to make things regarding the Kingdom of God clear to you. You can open up your heart to the Holy Spirit. If you have received Jesus then the Holy Spirit is already living in you. But you can ask Jesus today if He will make you full of the Holy Spirit. It is like you are flowing over and streams of living water are flowing out of you. This starts with voicing a desire to be filled with the Holy Spirit. God gives His Spirit to all who ask Him.

John 7:38-39; Luke 11:13

If you have reached that point then you can pray the following:

“Jesus, I want to ask you to fill me with the Holy Spirit. I want to be full of the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, you are God and you come from God to help me live with Him. I long for you and open up my entire heart to you. You are welcome.”

Now take time to worship God and trust Him that He will fill you with His Spirit. Of course you can also pray in your own words to be filled with the Spirit.

Tip: you could play some worship music. This is music about who God is and what He has done. It helps you to open yourself up to God more easily. The Spirit of God loves it when we worship God. You could also take a walk and enjoy nature. God made all things. By looking around you it can be easier to open your heart to the Holy Spirit.

When you are quiet on the inside, then it is a good moment to invite the Holy Spirit to fill you on the inside.

Ask your mentor how they live with the Holy Spirit. How did your mentor get filled with the Holy Spirit? Talk together about trying to live by the law or living by the changing power of the Holy Spirit.

PRINCIPLE 1

The Holy Spirit is given to equip us with God's love, peace, and strength. Through His presence in our lives we are able to understand God's will for our lives to carry out the Kingdom of God.



John 14:16-17,26

16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor be with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. 26 But the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

John 16:13-14

13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. 14 He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.

1 Samuel 16:13

13 So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came upon David in power. Samuel then went to Ramah.

Judges 14:5-6

5 Samson went down to Timnah together with his father and mother. As they approached the vineyards of Timnah, suddenly a young lion came roaring toward him. 6 The Spirit of the Lord came upon him in power so that he tore the lion apart with his bare hands as he might have torn a young goat. But he told neither his father nor his mother what he had done.

Exodus 35:30-35

30 Then Moses said to the Israelites, "See, the Lord has chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, 31 and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts — 32 to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, 33 to cut and set stones, to work in wood and to engage in all kinds of artistic craftsmanship's. 34 And he has given both him and Oholiab son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, the ability to teach others. 35 He has filled them with skill to do all kinds of work as craftsmen, designers, embroiderers in blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen, and weavers—all of them master craftsmen and designers.

Ezekiel 37:1-4

1 The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. 2 He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. 3 He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "Sovereign Lord, you alone know." 4 Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord!'"

2 Chronicles 7:1-3

1 When Solomon finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the Lord filled the temple. 2 The priests could not enter the temple of the Lord because the glory of the Lord filled it. 3 When all the Israelites saw the fire coming down and the glory of the Lord above the temple, they knelt on the pavement with their faces to the ground, and they worshiped and gave thanks to the Lord, saying, "He is good; his love endures forever."

John 14:17-18

17 The Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. 18 I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

Luke 3:21-22

21 When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened 22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

Luke 4:1

1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

16 Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? 17 If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and you are that temple.

John 6:63

63 The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.

Romans 8:4-6

4 In order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit. 5 Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what the nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. 6 The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace.

Romans 8:15-17

15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. 17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs— heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

Acts 2:38

38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Ephesians 1:13

13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit.,

2 Corinthians 3:6

6 He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant —not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

John 7:38-39

38 Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within them." 39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

Luke 11:13

13" If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"